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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.     | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/730,326   | 12/08/2003  | Mitsuhiro Yamazaki   | JP920020177US1          | 2433                   |
| 53493  | 7590        | 09/28/2007           |                         |                        |
| LENOVO (US) IP Law<br>1009 Think Place<br>Building One, 4th Floor 4B6<br>Morrisville, NC 27560 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>DU, THUAN N |                        |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2116        | PAPER NUMBER           |
|  |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>09/28/2007 | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/730,326             | YAMAZAKI ET AL.     |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | Thuan N. Du            | 2116                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10-13 and 16-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 10-13 and 16-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: Amendment (dated 7/3/07).
2. Claims 8-9 and 14-15 have been canceled. Claims 1-7, 10-13 and 16-19 are presented for examination.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. Claims 1-6, 10-13 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breen et al. [Breen], U.S. Patent No. 6,928,568 in view of Saeki et al. [Saeki], U.S. Patent No. 6,657,415.
5. As per claim 1, Breen teaches a computer system (100) comprising:
  - an AC power supply operatively connected to said computer system for supplying power to said computer system [col. 3, lines 48-52];
  - a battery (250) operatively connected to said computer for supplying power to said computer system when necessary [col. 3, lines 48-60]; and
  - a circuit (214) operatively connected to said battery and said AC power supply [col. 4, lines 27-30] for charging the battery when said system being powered on or off [col. 1, lines 39-51].

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Breen does not explicitly teach that a charging function to said battery is turning off while said battery is connected to said AC power supply.

Saeki teaches a computer system (100) comprising:

an AC power supply operatively connected to said computer system for supplying power to said computer system [col. 5, lines 18-22];

a battery (10) operatively connected to said computer system for supplying power to said computer system when necessary [Fig. 2; col. 5, lines 24-27; col. 7, lines 9-16]; and

a circuit (12) operatively connected to said battery and said AC power supply [Fig. 2], wherein said circuit turns off a charging function to said battery while said battery is still connected to said AC power supply [col. 6, lines 19-22].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Breen and Saeki because they both teach system for charging a battery with AC power. Saeki's teachings of turning off the charging function would not only reduce the power consumption of the system but also increase the reliability of the system by preventing the battery overcharged.

6. As per claim 2, Breen teaches that the system is powered off during charging said battery [col. 1, lines 45-48]. Saeki teaches that the charging function to the battery is turned off after the charging is completed [col. 6, lines 19-22].

7. As per claim 3, Saeki teaches that said circuit can turn on charging function to said battery if said AC power supply has shifted from not being connected to being connected [col. 8, lines 27-51].

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8. As per claim 4, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the battery taught by Breen or Saeki is replaceable. Therefore, the new battery, if not fully charged, is obviously charged upon installation.

9. As per claim 5, Saeki teaches that said circuit turns on charging function to a battery after a predetermined time period (the time when the battery voltage has dropped below a threshold) has lapsed since said charging function to the battery turned off [col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 7].

10. As per claim 6, both Breen and Saeki teach a regulator (AC adapter) operatively connected to said circuit (charging circuit) for supplying a small amount of power to said circuit [Fig. 2].

11. As per claims 10-13 and 16-19, they do not teach or further define over the limitations recited in the rejected claims above. Therefore, claims 10-13 and 16-19 are also rejected as being unpatentable over Breen in view of Saeki for the same reasons set forth in the rejected claims above.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

12. Claim 7 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Arguments***

13. Applicant's arguments filed July 3, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

14. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). In this case, Breen teaches that the battery could be charged during the computer system being powered off; and Saeki teaches that the charging function could be turned off while the battery is still connected to AC power supply. Therefore, the combination Breen-Saeki teaches the limitations as claimed.

***Conclusion***

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuan N. Du whose telephone number is (571) 272-3673. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached at (571) 272-3676.

Central TC telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

The fax number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

TD  
September 20, 2007



**THUAN N. DU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**